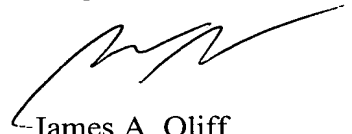


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification has been amended via a substitute specification and claim 17 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Prompt and favorable examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte  
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/sxb

Attachments:

Marked-up specification  
Clean specification

Date: August 27, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
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**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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